

UNCLASSIFIED MEMORANDUM

TO: Department of State (CA/OCS/ACS)

FROM: Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

TAGS: CASC

SUBJECT: DEATH: Disposition of Remains Report

REF: 7 FAM 260

The following information is submitted in accordance with the referenced requirements. Various area mortuaries were surveyed in order to compile this data.

Part I.

Mongolia

Part II. U.S. Embassy or Consulate Information

	American Embassy, Ulaanbaatar
Address:	Ulaanbaatar, Sukhbaatar district, 11 th micro district, Ikh Toiruu
Phone:	976-11-329095
Fax:	976-11-353788
After Hours Phone:	9911-4168

Part III. Mongolia was a sparsely populated nomadic country without a long tradition of formal burial or crematory services. However, since the 1950s there has been the development of some mortuary services. Initially, there were facilities for coffin burials in and around the major cities. However, since 2002 there have been cremation services available as well. Now, most basic mortuary services are available including coffin burial, cremation, and arrangement of international transport of remains.

Mongolia has been working to raise its mortuary services to international levels. In 2003, Mongolia joined the International Crematory and Funeral Association (ICFA) which helped introduce international mortuary technology and to adapt it to local traditions and customs. Moreover, in 2004 Mongolia joined the Australasian Cemeteries and Crematoria Association (ACCA) of South Asia. Finally, Mongolia collaborates with crematory associations and academies of Japan which provide some technical and financial assistance.

Part IV.

Name of the main mortuary: **Ulaanbaatar Buyan**
Address: Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar – 210648, P.O.Box 169 Sukhbaatar district, Narnii Zam-9
Telephone: +976 7011-0231, 7011-0229, 7011-0230
Fax: +976 (11) 328-036

DISCLAIMER: The U.S. Embassy Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, assumes no responsibility or liability for the professional ability or reputation of, or the quality of services provided by, the following persons or firms. Professional credentials and areas of expertise are provided directly by the funeral directors, morticians and other service providers.

Part V.

Maximum Period Before Burial

Mongolia does not have any national laws and regulations that specify that interment of remains should be performed within a specific period of time.

Injecting formula Hyde (a kind of embalming), although generally not up to U.S. standards, is available in Ulaanbaatar and other urban areas where adequate hospital facilities are available. However, if the remains are going to be shipped out of country until the transportation takes place, the remains can be kept in a morgue without embalming.

Embalming

Currently, there are no embalming facilities available in Mongolia.

Cremation

Cremation is permitted and available in Mongolia. However, it is a relatively new practice and the local cremation procedures may not be to the same standard as in the United States. In order to cremate the next of kin should make a contract with the cremation service. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays are traditionally the busiest days for the crematorium because of the traditions in Mongolia.

Caskets and Containers

Caskets and Containers are available locally from the "Buyan" Company (the Funeral Service Bureau for Ulaanbaatar). The company produces both plain and decorated caskets and has products suitable for export (zinc-lined caskets). The company is located in the Sukhbaatar district close to the parking lot of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and can be reached at +976 (11) 328-036, +976 7011-0231, +976 7011-0229, and +976 7011-0230.

Exportation of remains:

Exporting remains requires the permission of the local health organization. The casket must include a zinc lining and must meet international transportation standards. All caskets must be inspected by customs before being sealed. The remains must be transported from Mongolia by air by MIAT, the state run airline. The Cargo Handling Section of MIAT's Ground Operations Department's is the responsible office. They can be reached at (11) 379-645, or (11) 313-163. However, MIAT encourages using "Tuushin Cargo" of the Korean Airline Cargo Service to make the arrangements. POC for Tuushin Cargo is Mr. Tsendee. He can be reached at (11) 330-759, 99-091-844 or airfreight@tuushin.mn

Costs

The cost of both burial and cremation in Ulaanbaatar is estimated to be US\$500 – \$800. The cost will vary depending on where the remains must be transported and the quality of casket desired. Burial plots are free of charge.

International shipping of the remains is more expensive. MIAT's (Mongolia's national airline) is responsible for transporting the remains. The International air cargo department sets the price for all destinations. They can be reached at (11) 379-956.

As of October 2009, the estimated cost of transportation of remains from Ulaanbaatar to the following cities is:

Ulaanbaatar – Washington, D.C.	\$ 2,700
Ulaanbaatar – New York	\$ 2,700
Ulaanbaatar – Los Angeles	\$ 2,700
Ulaanbaatar – San Francisco	\$ 2,700

There may be additional security charges. Please note that these charges are representative only and change frequently.

Exhumation and Shipment

Examinations can be performed with permission of the local administrative and legal authorities. The disinterment must be done in the presence of representatives of the police and funeral service organization.

Remarks

Autopsies are routinely performed in Mongolia, but can be waived upon the request of the Embassy. Please contact the Consular Section at US Embassy Ulaanbaatar for assistance.